

July 29, 2016

The following is a summary of the event that occurred at Stavis Seafoods on March 23, 2016.

On March 23, 2016 at approximately 5:55 pm Stavis sanitation worker Jose Melgar went into Cooler B and noticed a very strong odor. Jose then went to the shipping office and notified shipping manager Ed Bishop who then notified Asst Operations Manager James MacPartlin. James then went to the main cooler and when he moved the strip curtain he smelled ammonia.

James immediately evacuated the other three employees who were in the facility at that time. James then made a search of the facility to make sure no one else was in the building. When James came out of the building the Boston Fire Department was on the scene. James checked the direction of the wind sock on the roof and directed all employees to gather in the opposite direction. Jose Melgar told James that Facility Manager Brian Caron was in the engine room.

The Boston Fire Department entered the engine room and got as far as the top of the stairs. They saw Brian lying next to the ammonia pilot receiver but were forced to leave the building due to the intensity of the ammonia. The LERC Hazmat team arrived with the proper Personal Protection Equipment and entered the engine room and removed Brian to a Hazmat tent and tried to resuscitate him.

The facility was embargoed by the Boston Fire Department and shut down.

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